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MARY KILLS PEOPLE

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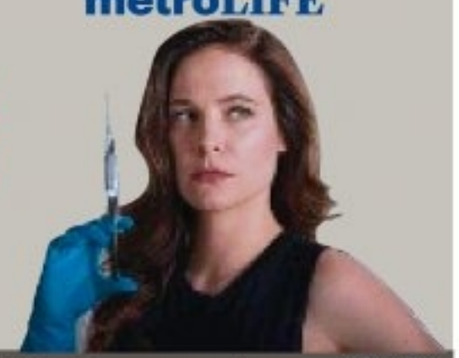

'Real change' needed for Ottawa police

RACISM

Community pressure spurs diversity audit

Dylan C. Robertson
For Metro | Ottawa

Ottawa Police Chief Charles Bordeleau says his force will undergo a diversity audit, after pressure from Somali-community activists.

At the Ottawa Police Services Board's meeting Monday, Dahabo Ahmed Omer spoke on behalf of the Justice for Abdirahman coalition, which was formed after the July 2016 death of Abdirahman Abdi during a police altercation in Hintonburg.

Omer said the police force needs to admit it has racists in its ranks. "A real and meaningful change can only begin when we accept that there is a problem," she said.

"By no means are we claiming that OPS is a racist organization, because it's not," she said, adding that she sees racism "in the actions of some, and the inaction of this organization."

That's why the group is asking for "an independent, third-party audit of the Ottawa Police Service's diversity and equity practices" including "retention, hiring, promotion and assignment."

Bordeleau responded that the board already decided to do a diversity audit, in the wake of last fall's gender audit, which is still being reviewed. He said more details could be revealed at next month's Partnership in Action meeting.

Like the gender audit, Bordeleau said the police board will choose an external, independent researcher. Omer told reporters she wanted someone else to make that choice.

"We were hoping for a completely external audit," she said. "They're going to bring someone in, but that's a first step, it's a positive step."

ONE FOR THE BOOKS

Carleton prof turns library into concert hall — to rock out on a bibliophone

metroNEWS

HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

A self-driving bus is cruising around in the streets of Paris. **Business**

Scouts ease transition for Arabic newcomers

IMMIGRATION

New arrivals get chance to try out Canadian activities

Dylan C. Robertson
For Metro | Ottawa

Joseph El Hajj recalls the first sleepover his Scouts Canada troop held at their church last November.

"The parents texted me at 2 o'clock. I think the parents stayed awake more than the kids that day," scouting commissioner El Hajj said. "But overall they saw the benefits for the program, and the kids talked about it for days."

Since last June, the trilingual scouts group at Saints Peter and Paul Melkite Catholic Church have been helping Arabic-speaking newcomers try out Canadian activities, through a mix of sports, outings and spirituality.

Since September, the group's 51 scouts and 20 volunteers meet each Saturday, running activities in English, French and Arabic. Most come from Lebanon, Syria, and Iraq.

El Hajj got the idea from his childhood days with a scouting troop in Lebanon, before his family fled the country's civil war.

"It was a bit different. Because of the war, we didn't have regular meetings. We couldn't go far from our homes. Here there's a lot of opportunities," he said. "There are lots of activities here; great scenery, great places to visit."

Part of the group's purpose is to introduce newcomers to Canadian customs, like having a fun-filled sleepover in the church and the Canadian Tire Centre.

El Hajj says allowing some Arabic makes some of the children feel more comfortable, ultimately helping them to master English and French.

"Some of them never held a hockey stick before," he said. Now, the group is planning an ice-fishing trip.

Scouts Canada's marketing director says troops have operated in at least 16 different languages.

"We're a highly diverse organization; we welcome all people," said John Petitti.

> **It's helping youth gain the skills they need to be successful in life.**
> John Petitti

Petitti has seen Sikh, Ismaili and Mormon groups, as well as cultural communities with no faith affiliation. In Kanata, 30 young Muslims in the Ihsan Scouts delivered a canoe of donations to the Ottawa Food Bank last year.

"It's helping youth gain the skills they need to be successful in life."

Scouts Canada counted 61,000 youth members last year, from ages 5 to 26, alongside 20,000 volunteers. Roughly a quarter are female, unlike their all-male American counterparts.

Members of the Scouts taking part in an Apple Day fundraiser. The group conducts meetings in French, English and Arabic to be more inclusive. CONTRIBUTED

COMMUNITY

Pride won't ban police in Ottawa

Ottawa's police chief said his force would be shocked to be banned from attending the city's Pride parade in uniform, a move organizers haven't considered.

"We work very closely with Ottawa (Capital) Pride, and we look forward to continuing our long-standing history in participating in the Pride parade," Charles Bordeleau said Monday.

Last Tuesday, the head of the police union raised the issue in an open letter, which surprised Ottawa Capital Pride organizers.

"Excluding uniformed police sends the mistaken message to all of our members, and in particular to our LGBTQ members, that they are unwelcome by career choice," wrote Matt Skof.

He told Metro he was trying to pre-empt a "cross-pollination" in Ottawa, after Toronto community members voted to ban police uniforms and floats.

"It would be a mistake to exclude a section of our society, just based on the colour of the uniform. Because you're not hearing that discussion with any other first-responder," Skof said last week.

Last year, Ottawa activists had heated debates in the run-up to the August parade, following the July death of Abdirahman Abdi. The Somali-Canadian man with mental health issues died in a tense police encounter that was partially captured on video.

Bordeleau said Tuesday he believes organizers will stick to that policy.

"I know there's some issues in Toronto, but we've got an open dialogue here in Ottawa, with Ottawa (Capital) Pride; and that'll continue."

The Ottawa festival starts August 21 and ends Aug. 27.

DYLAN C. ROBERTSON/METRO

EDUCATION

Mental health training incorporated into first aid courses

Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

Knowing CPR can save a life and so can being able to recognize a panic attack.

That's the idea behind a new initiative by St. John Ambulance that will incorporate basic mental health into first aid courses across Canada.

"With education comes confidence, and confidence means people will step up and take action," said Phil Clarke, Chancellor of St. John Ambulance.

On Monday morning Bell Let's Talk, the company's annual mental health fundraiser, announced a $150,000 contribution to the initiative inside Ottawa City Hall.

Olympian Clara Hughes and Mayor Jim Watson both attended the announcement.

Hughes — who stepped on stage with crutches from a recent surgery — emphasized that making mental health education part of first aid will reduce the stigma around incidents of depression and anxiety.

"It's very obvious that I'm hurt and dealing with a health situation — so people ask," she said of her recent surgery and crutches. "But this past winter I've had some struggles with depression. You can't see it and I can smile through it. It's such a big part of the struggle we have comprehending, understanding and supporting each other through mental health conditions.

"It's been an interesting experience. We have a long way to go and I don't blame people," she said.

St. John Ambulance provides first aid courses to over 500,000 Canadians every year. The organization currently offers a specialized two-day Mental Health First Aid course, but it isn't offered at all locations.

The new initiative will build a mental health component into all first aid courses. The new content will focus on debunking myths, recognizing symptoms and directing people to access further care.

"If we think about our health-care system; when somebody falls down and sprains an ankle, we step up and do what we have to do from a first aid perspective and we call 911 and an ambulance arrives. That's not the system we have for mental health," said Clarke.

TRAFFIC STOP STUDY

Chief defends data

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Ottawa

Ottawa Police Chief Charles Bordeleau said he still has full confidence in the traffic stop race data collection project, despite a separate study that showed widespread mistrust of the initiative among front-line police officers.

According to a study done by two Ottawa researchers, Gregory Brown and Phillip Primeau, officers fears that the project would be used against them lead to some officers avoiding parts of the city, incorrectly entering information and failing to do traffic stops all together .

The data from traffic stops led to a York University report that found no direct evidence of racial profiling, but did find that black and Middle Eastern drivers were more likely to be pulled over.

Bordeleau said he has high confidence in the study, despite Brown and Primeau's findings.

"The York research team assured us that they had enough quality-assurance measures in place, to ensure that the data and the scope and the size of the amount of information were collected was accurate," he said.

He said they commissioned Primeau and Brown's report to get a broader picture.

Sulaimon Giwa, a researcher and case manager at the Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization said he's not surprised officers mistrusted the program. He said Brown and Primeau's findings should raise doubts.

"We simply do not know the extent of the problem," he said.

Amira Elghawaby, with the National Council on Canadian Muslims, said the takeaway from the research is there is a problem with racial profiling within Ottawa police.

"The overall data from the study clearly indicates that a disproportionate number of black and Middle Eastern community members are being stopped — period. The police service has committed to addressing this in order to build and maintain public trust and that is welcome."

WITH FILES FROM DYLAN C. ROBERTSON

> **We simply do not know the extent of the problem.**
> Sulaimon Giwa

Performer and Carleton professor Jesse Stewart rocks out on an xylophone made of books inside Carleton University library. HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

New chapter in xylophones

MUSIC

Carleton prof's bibliophone is spine-tingling

Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

Carleton students were invited to literally hit the books Monday as professor Jesse Stewart filled the library with the sound of the bibliophone — an instrument created from old books.

The music turned heads inside the library, where students and staff filtered in and out of a dome tent set up in the lobby. Inside participants were handed drum sticks and invited to chime in by tapping out rhythms on an assortment of titles.

In the past, Jesse Stewart has also given concerts involving glass, steel containers, saw blades, canoe paddles, sea shells, stones and ice.

"Sometimes this work is described as sound art," he said. "Other people might understand it as music.

"Doesn't really matter to me what people call it, but rather I'm just happy and thankful to have opportunities to do this and to share it with other people who I hope will be interested in it."

The performance series was commissioned by the Carleton University Art Gallery.

"In many ways I think of this work as interactive art installations as much as they are sound installations," said gallery director Sandra Dyck.

The 50-or-so books which make up the instrument were all Carleton library volumes slated for disposal.

They vary in age, genre and surprisingly, sound. An old college edition of Webster's Dictionary and Mark Bourrie's The Fog of War were praised by the drummers as having the best tones.

"Old dictionaries seem to sound particularly good, which I think maybe relates to the thickness of the book, but maybe also, dictionaries tend to be printed on a thinner paper, so maybe that has an effect, I'm not sure," theorized Stewart.

"I think also the rigidity and thickness of the cover, size probably also has some kind of impact there.

"So all of these factors combine and each one sounds quite unique in combination."

> **Old dictionaries seem to sound particularly good, which I think maybe relates to the thickness of the book.** Jesse Stewart

GATINEAU

Residents lobby for grocery store

Residents in Hull are bringing a petition to their city council on Tuesday asking that securing a grocery store in the area remains a priority.

An organization called Épicerie de l'Île de Hull coop de solidarité is working with advocacy group ACORN and local residents to promote the issue.

On Tuesday the group is delivering a petition to city councillors and the mayor asking for a commitment that the $300,000 fund for the project will remain set aside for a grocery store.

Area Coun. Denise Laferrière told Metro in November that she wasn't planning on immediately reassigning the money, but did want to consult the community to see if the 10-year-old plan for the grocery store was still a priority.

$300K

Funds set aside by Hull city council to devote to securing a grocery store.

Alternative projects could include the restoration of a fountain, tree planting or upgrades to recreational facilities and the community centre.

A public consultation was held in November, but Gatineau ACORN organizers say their membership is concerned about the process and want the mayor to acknowledge the debate.

HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

POLITICAL STRATEGY

Open letters, open war

The Ontario Liberal government is blitzing federal Conservative leadership candidate Kevin O'Leary with a series of fact-check open letters, which a political pundit said could be part of an electoral long game.

McMaster University political science professor Henry Jacek said the Liberals know that going after O'Leary will appeal to their potential voters.

"It doesn't hurt at all to tell these people: 'Kevin O'Leary doesn't like us,'" he said.

Premier Kathleen Wynne fired off the first open letter on Sunday, taking the television personality to task for comments he made about Ontario's auto sector.

In response, O'Leary slammed Wynne in an open letter of his own for Ontario's more than $300-billion debt and suggesting she call a snap election.

Economic Development Minister Brad Duguid then followed up Monday, writing to O'Leary that debt-to-GDP ratio is a more important figure, and Ontario's is lower than Quebec's.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Uber, Airbnb bring privacy issues

TECHNOLOGY

Watchdog looks into complaints around sharing economy

Reports in 2014 revealed that Uber had the ability to track users' movements in real time. TORSTAR

The federal privacy watchdog is looking into complaints against so-called "sharing economy" companies for the first time, Torstar has learned.

In documents obtained under access to information law, privacy commissioner Daniel Therrien's office suggested sharing-economy companies such as Uber and Airbnb are creating a "growing risk" to Canadians' private information.

The key question, according to the documents, is who ultimately controls extremely sensitive personal information such as location data and financial information.

"In the sharing economy, certain personal information — going well beyond that traditionally needed for reserving lodging and hailing taxis — is collected to establish identity and trust," the documents read.

"It is of great concern what might happen with (personal information) in the sharing economy in the event of a breach, especially given lack of clarity regarding accountability."

In other words, unlike hailing a cab or booking a hotel room, some sharing-economy apps compile massive amounts of data on their users. A ride-sharing app can know where you usually travel — your work, your house, a favourite restaurant — and when you usually go there.

Therrien's office confirmed earlier this month they have now received a number of complaints about sharing economy companies potentially violating Canadians' privacy.

"I can tell you that we are still in the early stages of looking at this issue," Tobi Cohen, a spokesperson for Therrien, wrote in an email.

"I can, however, confirm that we have received several complaints tied to the sharing economy."

Cohen said the office would not go into any detail about the complaints, due to confidentiality provisions.

Torstar reached out to Uber and Airbnb, two companies considered standard bearers for the sharing economy. Uber Canada spokeswoman Susie Heath said the company "(doesn't) have anything to add" to the issue. Repeated requests to Airbnb were not returned.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

+ PAST CASES

Uber has run into its fair share of privacy concerns south of the border.

- **A December 2016 report** from the Centre for Investigative Reporting suggested employees at the "ride-booking" company could track the movement of ex-spouses, celebrities and politicians.
- **In 2014,** reports revealed the company had a "God View" of their service, which could track users' movements in real time.

EDMONTON

Driver belongs with pros

Kevin Maimann
Metro | Edmonton

Stefan Rzadzinski

Four sleepless days on a cellphone put Edmonton race car driver Stefan Rzadzinski on track for the race of his dreams.

Rzadzinski took on the world's top drivers at the Race of Champions Nations Cup in Miami over the weekend — after gathering nearly 10,000 online votes to get there. What's more incredible is that he won two out of three heats, including superstar and 2016 Indianapolis 500 winner Alexander Rossi.

"The first couple days, it was pretty cool hanging out with all those guys. A lot of them are my heroes," Rzadzinski said. "But then on Sunday it was my one chance to do my thing, and just prove I could do what I knew I could and what I've been preparing for my whole life."

A past float in the Apple Blossom Festival. TC MEDIA

NOVA SCOTIA

Diversity, beauty go hand in hand

A Nova Scotia festival that has crowned a queen for more than 80 years is opening up the competition to people of all genders and gender identities.

The Annapolis Valley Apple Blossom Festival has removed long-standing restrictions and will now accept all male and female candidates as long as they have graduated from high school or an equivalent program and are between 18 and 23 years old.

Alxys Chamberlain, the festival's vice-president, said Monday that includes transgender candidates.

"To my knowledge, we have not (previously) had a candidate who identifies as transgender," Chamberlain said.

Organizers say they are reaching out to a wider group of people and wanted to make the event more inclusive by removing barriers that once prevented women with children or who had been married from participating. Candidates also had to be single during their reign and could not be pregnant.

"These changes will be beneficial in promoting inclusion within the entire Annapolis Valley," Chamberlain said in a statement. "This will allow new leaders to come forward and be ambassadors for their communities."

Chamberlain said the new rules mean the winner of the leadership competition would be dubbed Queen Annapolisa or just Annapolisa, if both men and women compete. She says if all of the candidates identify as male, the awarded title would be King Annapolisa.

Chamberlain said people in the area have largely welcomed the changes, some of which the board made previously, before this year's candidate's agreement was released.

"The response from the public has been overwhelmingly positive," she said, adding that the mandate is to "promote young Valley leaders and to help prepare candidates for the business world."

The contest, which begins May 24, first started in 1933 and judged candidates on their "personality, intelligence, clarity, maturity, poise, and overall demonstrated representative behaviour," according to the website.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ITALY

Questions linger after avalanche

Italian emergency crews pulled three wiggling, white sheepdog puppies out Monday from under tons of snow and rubble at an avalanche-struck hotel, lifting spirits even as the search for 22 people still missing dragged on five days after the disaster.

One more body was located, raising the death toll to seven, and the first survivors of the avalanche were released from the hospital. Questions intensified, however, into whether Italian authorities underestimated the risks facing the snowbound resort in the hours before the deadly avalanche.

Five days after up to 60,000 tons of snow, rocks and uprooted trees plowed into the Hotel Rigopiano in central Italy, rescue crews were still digging by hand or with shovels and chainsaws in hopes of finding more survivors. An excavator reached the site, northeast of Rome, to speed up the search.

The discovery of the three Abruzzo sheepdog puppies in the boiler room raised spirits, even as rescuers located a seventh body.

Jubilant emergency crews carried the pups out in their arms, with one firefighter burying his face in the fluffy white fur to give the dog a kiss. The puppies were born last month to the hotel's resident sheepdogs, Nuvola and Lupo, and were prominently featured on the hotel's Facebook page. Their parents had found their own way out after the Wednesday afternoon avalanche.

Firefighter spokesman Luca Cari, however, stressed that the puppies were found in an isolated part of the hotel and didn't necessarily signal any new hope for finding human survivors.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NIGERIA

Hundreds dead at camp bombed by air force

The death toll from the bombing of a refugee camp by Nigeria's air force has climbed to 236, a local official said Monday — a sharp increase from earlier counts. A total of 234 victims were buried in Rann, where the camp is located, while two others died after being evacuated to Maiduguri for medical care, said Babagana Malarima, chairman of the Kala Balge local government council of northeast Borno state.

On Jan. 17, Nigeria's air force bombed the camp housing Boko Haram refugees near the Cameroonian border.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New presidency threatens multiple trade agreements

TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP

U.S. pulled out of 12-country Pacific Rim deal

Setting itself apart from a never-say-die Japan, Canada resigned itself to the death of the Trans-Pacific Partnership on Monday after President Donald Trump made good on his promise to pull the United States out of the trade pact.

Trump called getting out of the TPP "a great thing for the American workers" as he signed an executive order formally removing the U.S. from the controversial 12-country Pacific Rim deal.

There was no immediate comment from Prime Minister Justin Trudeau or Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland, who are in Calgary for a two-day cabinet retreat where how best to deal with the Trump team is the main preoccupation.

Canada had been taking a wait-and-see approach to the TPP, with the Liberal government launching a sweeping consultation that appeared designed to postpone a decision until the U.S. resolved the question of whether or not to take part.

> **A TPP without the U.S. would be incredibly difficult.** Yoshihide Suga

Asked whether the government believes the deal can be salvaged, Freeland spokesman Alex Lawrence would only say: "The agreement cannot enter into force without the United States."

Japan, however, continued to cling to the hope that there was room to salvage the deal by changing Trump's mind.

"A TPP without the U.S. would be incredibly difficult, but we do have a window until 2018, when the treaty needs to be ratified," Yoshihide Suga, a top adviser to Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, told American broadcaster CNBC.

"We believe we still have an opportunity to convince the U.S. about the importance of free trade."

Abe has personally met Trump to push the merits of the deal. Japan has also urged fellow TPP countries, including Canada, to push Trump to reconsider.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nafta's fate unclear

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau will meet the new U.S. president within the next several weeks, as the incoming American administration talks to its northern and southern neighbours about a revised North American Free Trade Agreement.

A spokesman for Donald Trump confirmed the upcoming discussions as he held his first daily White House briefing Monday and took questions on trade, counter-terrorism and a dispute over him making misleading statements.

The first NAFTA talks could take place in the U.S., Sean Spicer suggested. He appeared to indicate the leaders would visit Trump. However, in Canada, several officials said specifics of a meeting had yet to be nailed down.

Spicer said the meetings would happen soon: "Over the next 30 days or so."

The Canadian government heard a reassuring message in Calgary. A presidential adviser attended a federal cabinet retreat to say Canada need not be "enormously worried" about trade. Stephen Schwarzman, who leads the president's Strategic and Policy Forum, said the new administration had an "unusually positive" view of Canada.

"There may be some modifications, but basically things should go well for Canada," said Schwarzman.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. President Donald Trump gestures in the Oval Office on Monday at the White House.

AFP/GETTY IMAGES

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION DIGEST DAY 4

Trump moves to pull plug on federal hiring, international abortion funds

President Donald Trump signed memorandums freezing most federal government hiring — though he noted an exception for the military — and reinstating a ban on providing federal money to international groups that perform abortions or provide information on the option. The regulation, known as the "Mexico City Policy," has been a political volleyball, instituted by Republican administrations and rescinded by Democratic ones since 1984.

Senate debates CIA pick

The Senate on Monday debated whether to confirm Trump's pick to run the CIA, as Democrats raised questions about whether he is transparent in his beliefs about Russia's meddling in the U.S. election and how he feels about torture.

Senate Republicans had hoped to vote on Rep. Mike Pompeo's nomination Friday, after Trump's inauguration. But Democrats succeeded in stalling action until they could debate. Sens. Ron Wyden of Oregon, Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut and Patrick Leahy of Vermont objected to what they said was a "rushed confirmation" and demanded more time.

'SNL' writer suspended for tweet about Barron Trump

"Saturday Night Live" writer has been suspended indefinitely after tweeting a poorly received joke about Trump's 10-year-old youngest son, Barron.

A source not authorized to speak publicly said that Katie Rich was suspended after writing an offensive tweet about the child. An outcry on social media followed, with many calling for a boycott of the show.

'Net neutrality' foe Ajit Pai is new FCC head

Trump has picked a fierce critic of the Obama-era "net neutrality" rules to be chief regulator of the nation's airwaves and internet connections.

In a statement Monday, Ajit Pai said he was grateful to the president for choosing him as the next chairman of the Federal Communications Commission. Several reports last week had said he was the pick.

Pai had been one of the two Republican commissioners on a five-member panel that regulates the country's communications infrastructure.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SHUTTLE SERVICE PARIS TESTS DRIVERLESS BUSES
Officials in Paris are experimenting with a self-driving shuttle linking two train stations in the French capital. Two electric-power EZ10 minibuses were put into service Monday and will be tested until early April between the Lyon and Austerlitz stations. The GPS-guided vehicles, which can carry up to six seated passengers, are free and will be running seven days a week. PHOTO AFP/GETTY IMAGES; TEXT THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSING

Vancouver: world's third least affordable

An annual international survey rates Vancouver as the third least affordable housing market on the planet and it also has a warning about Toronto housing.

The 2017 Demographia International Housing Affordability Survey gives Vancouver a rating of 11.8, meaning median home prices are 11.8 times higher than median household income. Only Hong Kong, with a rating of 18.1, and Sydney, Australia, at 12.2, outstrip Vancouver.

Demographia says housing markets are affordable when median prices are no more than three times higher than median household income.

The 2017 survey ranks 406 markets in nine nations and puts Toronto at 28th on the list with a ranking of 7.7.

Demographia says Toronto posted a year-on-year home-price increase equal to a year of household income and it says soaring house prices will undermine the city's recent best-city rating from The Economist Intelligence Unit.

Other cities on the top 10 list include Auckland, where prices are 10 times above median income, followed by San Jose, Calif., Melbourne, Honolulu, Los Angeles, San Francisco and the southwestern England region of Bournemouth and Dorset.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TOP 10 most unaffordable cities

1. Hong Kong, 18.1
2. Sydney, Aust., 12.2
3. Vancouver, 11.8
4. Auckland, N.Z., 10.0
5. San Jose, Calif. 9.6
6. Melbourne, Aust. 9.5
7. Honolulu, Hawaii 9.4
8. Los Angeles, 9.3
9. San Francisco, 9.2
10. Bournemouth & Dorset, U.K., 8.9

Oil pipeline spills crude

SASKATCHEWAN

Cleanup effort recovers about 170,000 litres

A pipeline has leaked about 200,000 litres of crude oil onto agricultural land in southeastern Saskatchewan.

Government spokeswoman Kathy Young says the spill site 10 kilometres north of Stoughton is in a low-lying area with a frozen slough.

She says about 170,000 litres of the spill have been recovered and the oil has not entered any creeks or streams.

Young says environmental consultants are at the site and say air quality and wildlife have not been affected.

She says the Environment Ministry was informed on Friday night when the spill was detected. Ocean Man First Nation, along with Environment and Climate Change Canada, were also informed.

Pipeline owner Tundra Energy Marketing is handling the cleanup.

"The actual source of the leak will not be known until the site is excavated and the breach location is confirmed," Young said in an email sent to the media.

"Cleanup work began Saturday and included the removal of surface oil with vacuum trucks and efforts to identify the source of the rupture. Further assessment and cleanup, including excavation work, will follow until the site is appropriately restored."

Excavation of the affected line is to take place Wednesday, Young said.

The Economy Ministry's petroleum and natural gas division plans to investigate the cause of the spill and will oversee cleanup and pipeline repairs.

Last July, a leak in a Husky Energy pipeline near Maidstone, Sask., jeopardized the drinking water of thousands of people.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TECHNOLOGY

Zuckerberg charity buying Canadian tech company

A philanthropic organization set up by Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg and his wife Priscilla Chan has signed a deal to acquire Toronto tech company Meta.

Zuckerberg and Chan set up the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative in 2015. Meta uses artificial intelligence to help researchers keep on top of scientific papers.

Venture capital firm iGan Partners, an early Meta backer, says the initiative and Meta are committed to offering these tools for free to all researchers.

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Tuesday, January 24, 2017

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD ON MARCHES TO COME

Whatever took you to the streets last weekend must propel you elsewhere. The resistance takes perseverance.

I'll speak for myself, but I doubt I'm alone: Saturday was euphoric. The sheer numbers of marchers, the global solidarity, the creativity, the humour, the anger, the joy.

The rebellion.

I couldn't comprehend the swell of emotion, even as I felt it. I watched the faces pass me by — thousands of faces — and wondered who they were, and where they came from. I loved them all, these strangers in solidarity, who "put their bodies where their beliefs are," to quote Gloria Steinem in Washington.

"The next 1,459 days of the Trump administration will be 1,459 days of resistance," noted the feminist and civil rights activist Angela Davis, to the same crowd.

It cannot, the message was repeated, be only one instance of action. Whatever took you to the streets on a winter morning must propel you elsewhere, in days to come. The resistance, as it has been dubbed, takes perseverance. Even in Canada.

It would be arrogant to think that the forces that brought Donald Trump to power will skip the 49th parallel. They're already here. They're evident in Kellie Leitch and Kevin O'Leary, both vocal supporters of Trump's tactics and campaign. They're evident in The Rebel — Ezra Levant's project — which seeks to be the next Breitbart, one more hub to advance white nationalist views.

Reproductive rights, one of the loudest cries from protests around the world, are not done and dusted in the True North. There are communities where abortions are still hard to procure, especially remote communities. There are provinces that still enforce far more red tape — costing women time and money — than needed. Now that the abortion pill — Mifegymiso — is finally available, decades after it should have been, women in Canada will still face cumbersome requirements that could make it harder and costlier to get.

If you do not want this fire to end, don't let it.

The fight to end violence against women remains crucial, here, as everywhere, for women facing abuse from partners, for women facing sexual violence, for women of colour, immigrant women, and Indigenous women.

The fight to bring racial equality to Canada remains, in the Black Lives Matter movement, in Indigenous rights on and off reserve.

The fight against climate change continues to be urgent. As does the need to support women with disabilities, who also face high rates of sexual violence and many other challenges.

If you're wondering where I got all these talking points from, then perhaps you didn't spend enough time on the Women's March website. It was all there. Before the march, organizers released what was hailed as the most inclusive and progressive agenda many had seen. And in its recognizing that women's rights are entangled with all fights for equality, it almost epitomized intersectional feminism.

The march also declared hundreds of supporting organizations, which represent a plethora of issues. You could — and should — support any one of them, or research organizations in your own city which hold your same views, and put your time, money and body again where your beliefs are.

There is also the no small matter of your elected officials — your city council and mayor, your provincial representation, your member of parliament — who are required to listen to the issues you care about, and who may respond to the pressure.

Perhaps march organizers could have done more to point the thronging crowds in the direction of future efforts, though some tried. In Toronto, people passed out pamphlets on the fight for a $15 minimum wage. In Victoria, organizers urged people to attend an upcoming Stolen Sisters Memorial March for missing and murdered indigenous women and girls.

At the Washington march, activist and actress America Ferrera told the crowd to text "women" to 40649 to be signed up for information on activism to come. Today, the Women's March released 10 actions in 100 days — an agenda for activism to come.

Every person who made the decision to march has my gratitude. But it is also up to each of us to decide what is next.

So if you do not want this fire to end, don't let it.

Rosemary Westwood is a former Metro national columnist. She lives in New Orleans.

Young girls lead hundreds of people at the Women's Memorial March in Vancouver in February 2015. The march, held annually to honour missing and murdered women, is an example of protest actions that newly energized women's-march veterans could consider supporting. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Feedback on library won't be kept quiet

COLLINS' CAPITAL
Steve Collins

City council meetings have procedures that sometimes seem aimed at insulating public officials from too much unfiltered public input.

You could immediately tell the difference between such proceedings and last week's open house on the central library. Andrew Haydon Hall was packed, for starters.

Council attendance skewed 100 per cent urban (downtown councillors Catherine McKenney, Jeff Leiper, Tobi Nussbaum, Mathieu Fleury and David Chernushenko). Judging by a show of hands, the vast majority of public attendees came from downtown as well. The main library is, after all, their local branch.

Instead of city staff, an expert panel — University of Ottawa's Elizabeth Kristjansson, Ecology Ottawa's Graham Saul and retired architect Tony Griffiths — was on hand to talk about the social role of the library, the importance of its accessibility to pedestrians, and how it should fit into the fabric of the city.

Griffiths got applause — also actively discouraged at regular city meetings — for rejecting the library's currently recommended site, at the eastern edge of LeBreton Flats, as too far from the city core. He instead favours Confederation Park, which was never in active consideration, chiefly because it's owned by the National Capital Commission.

Unlike at committee meetings, where citizens can register to speak but not to ask questions, the open house heard lots of good ones.

How is the library still a free service, asked one woman, if she'll have to pay a transit fare to get to its new location? Another wanted to know, since most of the sites between Bronson and the Rideau Canal had been rejected as too small, whether the proposed partnership with Library and Archives Canada had inflated those space requirements. Had anyone considered the steep slope down to the proposed site vis a vis wheelchairs and strollers?

The site got dismal marks from attendees. But key decision-makers conspicuously weren't there, so how much effect will the input have on committee and council votes?

"I would not have invited 200 people out here tonight," Coun. McKenney said afterward, "if I didn't think there was some hope."

Errata:

An embarrassing proportion of readers probably noticed last week that I imagined a statue. Charlotte Whitton. Ottawa's first female mayor, is absolutely not commemorated on Parliament Hill, as I incorrectly wrote.

It's not excessively likely she ever will be, either. You might recall the set-to over plans to name a city archive building her. Opponents pointed to her ignoble efforts to keep Jewish immigrants out of Canada.

How did I screw up so abjectly? Good question. Maybe I somehow confused Mayor Whitton with the Famous Five, who can be found on the Hill.

I regret and abhor the error, the dumbest thing I've written so far in 2017, though the year is young. In the same column, I meant to credit the work of Ottawa's Campaign for Safer Consumption Sites, not Canadians for Safer Consumption Sites, as I sloppily had them. Apologies for that, too.

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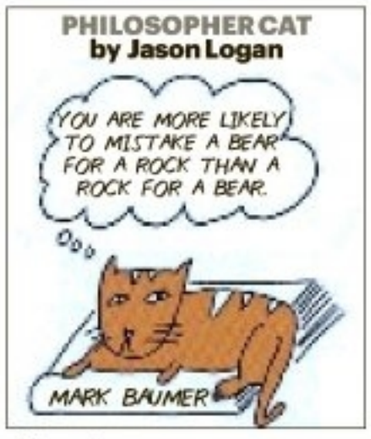

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metro LIFE

Your essential daily news

Canadian Alessia Cara will make her Saturday Night Live debut on Feb. 4

She's an elegant mercy killer

INTERVIEW

Much like her new character, actress has two sides to her

Chris Alexander
For Metro Canada

Caroline Dhavernas sees her lead character in Global TV's new series Mary Kills People as 'a bit of a pioneer'. CONTRIBUTED

The first five minutes of Global TV's new series Mary Kills People doesn't mess around. In it, beautiful young doctor Mary Harris sits at the bedside of a wealthy man in the final stages of an agonizing illness. As she mixes a deadly cocktail, she explains how this potent potion will do what the man wants: it will end his life. As Mary watches the man quickly slips into the ether, she never leaves his side. But then something goes wrong.

We won't tell you what happens next, but the entire scene encapsulates the emotional and visceral complexity of the six-episode series (which premieres on Global in Canada on Wednesday and on Lifetime in the U.S. on April 23) and gives us a fully realized peek into the plight of its protagonist, deftly played by Quebec-born actress Caroline Dhavernas. Dhavernas is the heart and soul of a show that, using dark humor and wrenching drama, taps into a very real, controversial social issue, that of assisted suicide.

"I think what drew me most to Mary Kills People is that way that (series creator) Tara Armstrong has handled such an important subject," Dhavernas tells Metro.

"There's lots of grey zones here. As there should be. And Mary is a woman filled with contradictions. As the show progresses, you will find out that she's not just doing this to help people, she's also doing this for personal reasons."

While Mary is mostly righteous in her mission, she's in essence a criminal. Though medically assisted dying has been legal in Canada since June 2016, Mary Kills People takes place in a world where it's not, meaning Mary is forced to live a double life as an ER doctor and single mother of a teenage daughter, while being trailed by police like the serial killer that legally, she is.

"These moments where Mary is taking human life are so intimate and meaningful for her," Dhavernas insists.

"And the fact that there is the illegal aspect to her work is also probably equally meaningful for her. But she's not a sociopath. She's doing this out of empathy and I see her as a bit of a pioneer, evolving in a world where she cannot progress in a controlled environment. She has to get away with it. Morally, it's a very intriguing character. And not all of the characters she encounters on her journey agree with her."

It's a joy to see Dhavernas take on such a rich character and be center stage in a series of this calibre. The prolific actress is perhaps best known for her work with noted TV writer and showrunner Bryan Fuller in hit shows like Wonderfalls and Hannibal, but before she became a celebrity in the English-speaking world, she was first a star in French Canada, appearing in Quebecois film and television since childhood. She continues to do so.

> **She's not a sociopath, she's doing this out of empathy.**
> Caroline Dhavernas

"It's funny, because I have this duality," says the actress.

"There are those two solitudes, it's true. I have been working in Quebec as an actor since I was eight years old, so when I moved to New York when I was 21, it was strange — no one knew who I was! So I had to start again. But the beauty of it was that I had all this experience as an actor under my belt."

And though the first season of Mary Kills People consists of just six episodes, we'd certainly like to see more of Dhavernas' elegant mercy killer on screen. So would she.

"There are talks to do a second season and I hope there is. The writers already have some great ideas. I guess we just have to see how well this first round does."

Mary Kills People airs Wednesday, Jan. 25 at 9 p.m. on Global Television.

JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

Praying for some holy logic

THE SHOW: The Young Pope, Season 1, Episode 2 (HBO)
THE MOMENT: The marketing meeting

Pope Pius XIII (Jude Law) is having the first meeting of his new papacy — with the Vatican's marketing expert, Sofia (Cecile de France).

She tells him that a sizeable slice of the Vatican budget relies on merchandise bearing the Pope's image. He holds up a plain white plate.

"This is the sort of merchandise I'm prepared to authorize," Pius says. He tells her there will be no images of him, not even photographs.

She tells him he's committing media suicide. He counters that the most important cultural figures are enigmas: Salinger, Kubrick, Banksy.

Sofia says he's not an artist, but a head of state. "Yes," he replies. "And in order to survive, its leader has to make himself as unreachable as a rock star."

She nods, intrigued. "The Vatican survives on hyperbole," he says. "So we will generate hyperbole in reverse."

I've seen three episodes of this series, and I still don't get it. On the one hand, it depicts Pius as modern and irreverent, the wily boss of a large corporation. On the other, he's full of fire and brimstone about God. I'm fine if a main character is unpredictable, but there has to be a logic, an inevitability to what he does.

Series creator Paolo Sorrentino is in thrall to images. Nuns playing slo-mo soccer, the Pope's red shoes. He wants images of the Pope shocking people. He wants images of the Pope praying fiercely. He doesn't care if so far, he doesn't have a through line there.

But so far, I do.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

Jude Law's Young Pope is depicted as a wily corporate boss but also full of religious fire and brimstone. CONTRIBUTED

Attraction may raise the stakes, but according to one expert, it's not the end of the world when we are rejected, as long as we learn lessons to take forward. ISTOCK

Working hard on a cure for shyness

ADVICE

If your nerves keep you from finding love, it's time to talk

Sofi Papamarko
Torstar News Service

Putting yourself out there romantically can be all kinds of scary. The simple act of asking somebody on a date can prompt sweaty palms, an elevated heart rate and other symptoms related to anxiety. Love is fight. Love is flight.

As a wise man once said, "shyness is nice, but shyness can stop you from doing all the things in life you'd like to."

It takes courage and some measure of self-confidence to ask somebody out. But what if you have neither? Then you might just be love-shy.

The Forty Year-Old Virgin is a movie concept that supposedly borders on the absurd, but it's astonishing how many matchmaking clients I meet in their 30s, 40s and beyond who have never dated. It's not because there's anything wrong with them; in fact, they happen to be particularly introspective, intelligent and sensitive people. It's just that they're too afraid of rejection to express romantic interest in anyone — ever.

"Shyness has always been an issue for me," a recent matchmaking client explained. "If there's an attractive woman, I can only steal glances. I have never had the courage to ask anyone out. At work, it feels too risky to ask single co-workers on a date in case it doesn't end well."

If an overwhelming fear of romantic rejection sounds silly to you, consider your own fears and how unreasonable they may seem to others. Spiders? Heights? Clowns? Fear is fear; sometimes those fears can be as debilitating as they are unfounded.

"The fear of rejection can stop us from taking risks and the problem is exacerbated if we are extremely attracted to the other person," says Christopher Gray, author of From Shy to Social: The Shy Man's Guide to Personal and Dating Success and a formerly love-shy person.

"Attraction raises the stakes. In reality, it's not the end of the world when we are rejected. In fact, rejection is a normal part of life. You may not realize it at the time, but rejection has the potential benefit of forcing us to improve ourselves, for a greater chance of success in the future."

Talking through your anxieties with a therapist and/or doing CBT (Cognitive Behavioural Therapy) can help. But you can also tackle this by taking a lot of smaller steps, which is how Gray eventually overcame his own love-shyness.

"The first step was recognizing that it was a personal problem, not a problem with society not giving shy guys a chance," he says. "I took several courses designed to get me out and interacting with people, including acting and improv."

Over time, Gray gained the confidence required to initiate friendly conversations. Once that got easier, he began asking women out. "I experienced plenty of rejection along the way, but over time my success rate got better, leading to a normal dating life and eventually to a very rewarding relationship."

Being love-shy is a challenge that can be overcome with determination and support. If you live with love-shyness, know that you're not doomed to repeat the same lonely narrative for the rest of your life. Remember that you're worthwhile and worthy of love. It's time to get out of your own way.

Sofi Papamarko is a writer and matchmaker who lives in Toronto.

CYBER SECURITY

Personal passwords not so secretive

Your mother's maiden name is probably not a secret. Neither, necessarily, is your high school mascot or the size of your car payment. But some banks and brokerages still pretend this is information only you would know. It could be putting your money at risk.

MAKE IT SAFER
Password managers such as 1Password and LastPass can help create and track unique, strong passwords as well as answers to security questions.

So-called security questions long ago outlived their usefulness, since they can be hard for the right people to remember and easy for the wrong people to guess or steal.

"Relying on questions and answers is absolutely braindead, but a lot of banks do it because they're not equipped to implement anything else and regulators aren't mandating alternatives," says security expert Avivah Litan.

Financial institutions disagree, saying "knowledge-based authentication" — especially questions based on less readily available information, such as data in your credit report — can be an effective way to identify customers.

"No security measure is perfect, but knowledge-based authentication is certainly more granular and more effective than shared secrets, such as your mother's maiden name," says Doug Johnson, senior vice-president for payments and cyber security at the American Bankers Association.

Yet repeated database breaches mean that tons of once-private information is in criminal hands. Security questions and answers were among the data stolen from 1 billion Yahoo accounts in 2013, for example, and criminals answered questions drawn in part from credit report data to access more than 700,000 transcripts at the IRS. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HEALTH BRIEFS

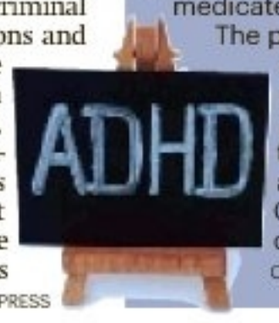
Class group key to ADHD

Whether a child is born early or late in the school year can be an indicator of how likely they are to be medicated for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder — or ADHD — according a new study.

Published in the Medical Journal of Australia on Monday, the study found that children born in the last possible month of school year admission were significantly more likely to receive "pharmacological treatment" for the disorder than children born in the first possible month of admission.

In other words, the youngest kids in the class are far more likely to be medicated for ADHD.

The paper is line with similar studies, including one that looked at almost 1 million Canadian children in 2012.



COLIN MCNEIL/METRO

DOCUMENTARY

Every minute counts in drive to ease Alzheimer's epidemic

In 2004, PBS aired a film about Alzheimer's disease.

The grim takeaway:

- It's incurable and deadly.
- With the aging of the U.S. population the number of cases is skyrocketing accordingly.
- The cost of this coming epidemic is destined to be financially ruinous, not only on an individual basis, but also as a public-health crisis.

That was then, in 2004. But the situation has grown only more dire, says an important new documentary, Alzheimer's: Every Minute Counts, which airs Wednesday at 10 p.m. EST on PBS.

According to this program, there are now more than 5 million Americans with Alzheimer's disease, with the number projected to soar by 55 per cent by 2030, while future costs associated with it threaten to bankrupt Medicare, Medicaid and the life savings of millions of Americans.

Alzheimer's: Every Minute Counts was produced and directed by Elizabeth Arledge, who a dozen years ago produced the Emmy-winning The Forgetting: A Portrait of Alzheimer's.

A daughter cares for her mother diagnosed with a genetic form of early-onset Alzheimer's in Every Minute Counts. AP

That report mainly focused on the human tragedy of a degenerative brain disease that sentences each victim to a progressive loss of memory and sense of self and, over time, an inability even to swallow and breathe.

For her new documentary, Arledge has taken a different tack.

"This is not another examination of the heartache," she explained recently. "Instead, it's more about how this personal tragedy is now going to become a tragedy for the whole country if nothing changes in the trajectory of the disease. We look at the epidemic as a main character in the film."

All in all, Every Minute Counts is an alarming hour. But it isn't without hope.

"There are a lot of promising things in development," says Arledge. "With enough support to bring them across the finish line, they could make a difference in the next five or 10 years.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gossip DIGEST

ANIMAL RIGHTS

PETA to at protest A Dog's Purpose screenings

Animal rights group PETA tells TMZ it has plans to protest outside theatres showing A Dog's Purpose, the film that's earned controversy for its alleged mistreatment of a German Shepherd during filming.

A behind-the-scenes video posted by TMZ on Jan. 18 purports to show the dog, named Hercules, distressed and struggling with a handler as he is forced into churning water during filming in Winnipeg.

The gossip mill reports protesters may be planning to shame anyone buying a ticket at the box office to the new film, starring Dennis Quaid. The organization that ensures animal safety in U.S. film and television productions said last week it would launch an investigation into the incident, and suspended its own safety representative on the set. COLIN MCNEIL/METRO

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

The Last Jedi revealed as new Star Wars movie title

Star Wars: Episode VIII finally has a title — The Last Jedi. The Walt Disney Co. announced the title for the next chapter in the Skywalker saga on Monday. Star Wars: The Last Jedi will be released Dec. 15.

Speculation over just who the last Jedi is immediately ran rampant on social media. The Force Awakens chronicled Daisy Ridley's Rey discovering her powers with the Force, but ended ominously with a withdrawn Luke Skywalker (Mark Hamill) on a remote island. If there's to be just one Jedi left, Luke's days could be numbered.

In an interview at the Sundance Film Festival, Hamill (above) said he liked that the title was "straightforward" and "minimalist."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANGRY INUK

Doc about anti-sealing movement honoured at fest

Angry Inuk has been crowned winner of the people's choice award at Canada's Top Ten Film Festival.

The organization that runs the Toronto International Film Festival selected the documentary as one of 10 homegrown features in the lineup for the event, which concludes on Thursday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Girls just wanna have fright

FILM PRODUCTION

First all-female horror project breaks barriers at Sundance

Directors Roxanne Benjamin, from left, Annie Clark, Jovanka Vuckovic and Sofia Carillo collaborated on the horror anthology, XX, which will get its theatrical release February 17. TAYLOR JEWELL/INVISION/AP

Most people would say the main purpose of horror film is to scare the bejeebers out of us.

Not the women behind XX, the first all-female horror anthology, which had its world premiere early Monday at the Sundance Film Festival. They see fright films as a form of empowerment and advancement.

"It was created in direct response to the lack of opportunities for women in film, particularly in the horror genre," Toronto writer/director Jovanka Vuckovic told a packed and cheering audience at the Library Theatre, which braved a very dark and snow-stormy night to attend the midnight screening.

"We're very, very happy that you're all here to share this historic moment with us ... I think that the horror genre is badly in need of new perspectives and women have that to offer in spades."

The films had three rules, said Vuckovic, who is also one of the producers of XX: they had to be written by women, directed by women and star women in key roles.

Vuckovic, an award-winning filmmaker whose first short The Captured Bird was executive produced by horrormeister Guillermo del Toro, wrote and directed The Box, the first of the four mini terrors, each about 20 minutes long, that are bundled in XX. The anthology is scheduled for a Feb. 17 theatrical release.

Filmed in Toronto, The Box begins aboard a crowded TTC train where a frazzled mother (Natalie Brown) is taking her two young children, a son and a daughter, home for supper after an exhausting day of fun. They sit next to an odd little man holding a large present, brightly wrapped in red paper, who offers a peek inside to the curious son.

What happens next needs to be seen, not described, but it's not out of place to mention that a scene from Night of the Living Dead will pop up on the family's TV screen later that night.

The other shorts are The Birthday Party by Annie Clark, aka the pop star known as St. Vincent, who makes her directorial debut with XX; Don't Fall by Roxanne Benjamin, who made her directing debut with the male-dominated 2015 horror anthology Southbound; and Her Only Living Son by Karyn Kusama, whose groundbreaking female boxing film Girlfight won the 2000 director's prize at Sundance.

I think that the horror genre is badly in need of new perspectives and women have that to offer in spades.
Jovanka Vuckovic

The four films are connected by a wonderfully sinister animated sequence involving a creepy doll, directed by Sofia Carrillo, who has obviously seen a Tim Burton film or two, and who really qualifies as the fifth director of this anthology.

"I think what we're trying to do is show that (horror) is not all just that one thing that people have the image of," Benjamin said. "It's many things. It's that sense of creeping dread, it's building tension, unease."

Is there something about the XX shorts that makes them particularly female?

Only, perhaps, in that three of the four films involve a mother or maternal figure attempting to shield children from advancing terror.

As with male-directed horror films, there's no shortage of blood, gore, screams, jump scares and things that go bump in the night.

The four films within XX are all strikingly original, with the exception of Kusama's Her Only Living Son, which borrows a little too freely from Roman Polanski's Rosemary's Baby.

Kusama was the only one of the XX directors not present at the screening. She skipped Sundance so she could participate in the Women's March on Washington over the weekend to protest the new administration of U.S. President Donald Trump.

She sent a note, read to the audience, about how she views Trump's rise as a form of evil that horror films can help exorcise.

"I think we're seeing very clearly that there is indeed evil in the world," Kusama wrote. "And I'm happy that the four of us have a chance to interpret, give voice to and resist some of that evil."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

LUCA STRIKES

Italian director's arthouse drama wows Sundance

Sundance audiences and critics alike are swooning over Luca Guadagnino's Call Me by Your Name, a coming-of-age drama which had its world premiere Sunday evening.

Adapted from André Aciman's 1980s-set novel of a young man's sexual awakening, it stars Armie Hammer as a visiting American scholar staying for the summer at the northern Italy family abode of a teenager played by newcomer Timothée Chalamet. A relationship begins, very slowly, allowing viewers to drink in the intoxicating sights and sounds of Guadagnino's exquisite film.

Recalling Oscar likely Moonlight, it's a rich arthouse experience that may cross over to the mainstream. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Austra casts hopeful eye on the future

ELECTRO ACT

Loneliness and political readings give rise to band's third album

Nick Krewen
For Torstar News Service

The moment that Canadian electro band Austra completed its world tour to support its sophomore album, Olympia, its lead singer and songwriter Katie Stelmanis hit the books.

She became a bookworm and began a voracious reading cycle.

"I had felt that music had consumed my life for the previous five years and I really just wanted to exercise other parts of my brain," Stelmanis said. "So I really did get into reading, which doesn't really sound like a big deal, but I hadn't read a book since high school.

"I started making a list of all the books that I had read, because I was able to see this quantifiable gain in my smartness every time I read a book. I tried to read as many as possible."

It wasn't the only activity Stelmanis undertook during her performance hiatus, which officially ended last week with the Toronto kickoff to a 53-date world tour that concludes in Brussels in April.

There were French and Spanish language studies, ballet lessons and cooking as she moved from Montreal to New York to Mexico City before returning to Canada.

But the books she read directly informed much of the subject matter in the 11 songs on Austra's third album, Future Politics, also out Friday.

Musically, it's an album full of nuanced, throbbing synthesizers, brisk dance rhythms and Stelmanis's angelic, operatic-inspired warbling.

Lyrically, it's a big-picture observation of social concerns ranging from capitalism to the environment, mentioned in such songs as Future Politics, Utopia, Gaia and Freepower.

"It was the culmination of a few years of basically reading stuff," Stelmanis explains. "The first book that got me into all these subjects was the Naomi Klein book This Changes Everything and that kind of inspired me to read more about neo-liberalism.

"I got really into reading David Harvey and his books A Brief History of Neo-Liberalism and Rebel Cities, and from there it just seemed to me like the major problems in the environment were in a large part due to capitalism, essentially, and the way that our economy works.

"So I became obsessed with reading about post-capitalism.... That's kind of where the cards of Future Politics came from."

"It's my first time experiencing true political uncertainty," says Austra's Katie Stelmanis as the band releases its album, Future Politics, on Friday. CARLOS OSORIO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Yet despite the dreary imagery of the album's first two videos — Future Politics, with its zombie-like characters, and Utopia, where Stelmanis digs into a bowl of grubs — Stelmanis says that Future Politics is an album of hope.

"The writing process did start out very, very bleak," she admits. "When I was writing in Montreal, I was feeling pretty intense feelings — even from just being off tour — from kind of loneliness, isolation, depression and kind of experiencing what I sort of see is this collective depression that the people of our generation are feeling right now. So the record did start off very, very dark.

"But I suppose I was able to come out of that with my obsession with the future. So that's why I think on the record it's very obvious which songs are written specifically during that dark period and which ones were written after."

With Donald Trump's inauguration south of the border occurring coincidentally on the day of Future Politics' release, Stelmanis says there's plenty to worry about.

"For someone of my generation, it's my first time experiencing true political uncertainty, where nobody really knows what's going to happen," she says. "I really believe ... that the left doesn't have a chance if they don't have a vision for something different. So rather than just resisting a Trump presidency, it's so important to have something better prepared and ready to replace it."

RECENTLY RELEASED

Some Shyamalan twists, Vin Diesel turns and a tale of mystery

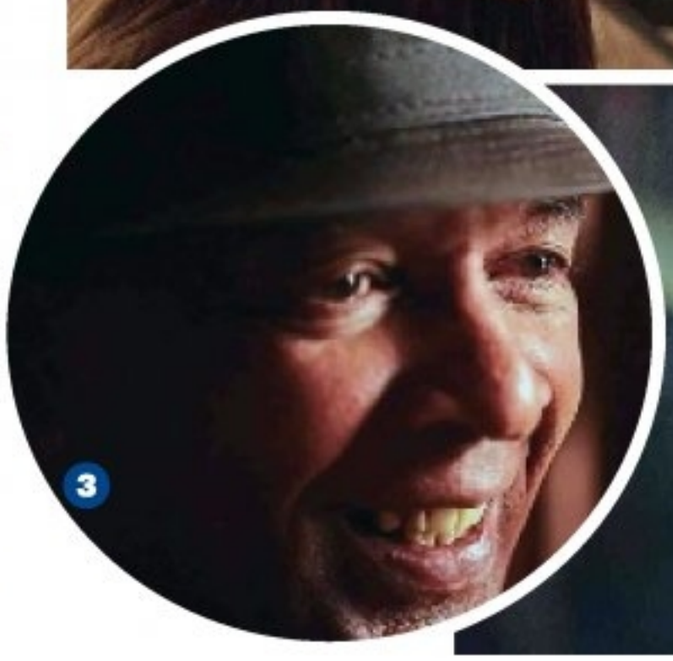
A bit more about the movies you can watch on a weeknight

1 Split (starring James McAvoy, Betty Buckley, Anya Taylor-Joy; directed by M. Night Shyamalan; 116 minutes; 14A) — A plot twist can never zolt an audience as hard when they're waiting for it. And since his 1999 classic The Sixth Sense, no one's been under twist surveillance like M. Night Shyamalan. The core mystery of Split surrounds James McAvoy, a captor living with extreme(ly fictionalized) Dissociative Identity Disorder who keeps teenage girls in a DIY dungeon. In the heart of awards season, it's refreshing to see an actor let his freak flag fly as high as McAvoy does in Split.

2 xXx: Return of Xander Cage (starring Vin Diesel, Donnie Yen, Deepika Padukone; directed by D.J. Caruso; 107 minutes; PG) — It's been 15 years since Vin Diesel first played Xander Cage in the deeply silly first xXx, and he hasn't grown up a bit. The comeback-throwback doesn't dare stray from the original, with its cheerfully senseless set pieces, witless quips and an X Games esthetic that will take you on a snowboard ride back to the radical, tacky '90s.

3 The Skyjacker's Tale (directed by Jamie Kastner; 75 minutes; 14A) — This ambitious documentary by Toronto writer/director Jamie Kastner teases out a mystery about Ishmail Muslim Ali that continues to fascinate, decades after he made international headlines in connection with two outrageous crimes: a mass murder and an aircraft hijacking.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



metro SPORTS

"If you know someone it doesn't mean you agree with everything they say or they do": Tom Brady spoke to Boston radio about friend Donald Trump

Raonic's dream within reach

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

With top 2 seeds out Canuck has great chance to win a major

Not every tennis player quotes from Goethe on Twitter, keeps a journal and visits art exhibitions during tournaments.

Milos Raonic, though, has taken a slightly different path in life. He grew up playing tennis in snowy Canada, not sunny Florida. And his parents, immigrants from Montenegro, knew nothing about tennis. On long drives to tournaments, his father would quiz him with math problems, not break down his forehand.

The Canadian has many passions in life, but make no mistake, he's still very focused on his career goal — winning a Grand Slam. And with Andy Murray and Novak Djokovic now out of the draw at the Australian Open, the third-ranked Raonic is suddenly the highest seed remaining.

Is this his best opportunity to finally break through and win a major trophy?

"It sort of crosses your mind," he said after his 7-6 (6), 3-6, 6-4, 6-1 win over Roberto Bautista Agut in the fourth round on Monday.

"But it's very insignificant because there's a lot for me to even get past. I have some very difficult tasks ahead of me," said Raonic, who reached the Wimbledon final and the semi-finals at Melbourne Park last year. "I'm pretty intent on staying in that moment, in that sort of challenge one at a time."

Milos Raonic mingles with fans after win over Roberto Bautista Agut of Spain on Monday in Melbourne, Australia. CLIVE BRUNSKILL/GETTY IMAGES

Indeed, Raonic has a significant obstacle in front of him next, 14-time major winner Rafael Nadal, who defeated Gael Monfils in the fourth round.

After ending his season early last year because of a wrist injury, a rejuvenated Nadal has been playing inspired tennis in Melbourne. He also has a 6-2 record against Raonic, though the Canadian won their most recent match at the season-opening Brisbane International event.

The other concern for Raonic has been his health — he came down with a cold earlier in the tournament and was bed-ridden for a day. His timing seemed slightly off against Bautista Agut when he racked up 55 unforced errors and even uncharacteristically hurled his racket to the court midway through the third set.

But Raonic said he's on the mend and playing with new focus under his recently hired coach, Richard Krajicek.

Krajicek's addition at the start of the season was just the latest tweak by Raonic aimed at perfecting his game. In the past few years, Raonic has been coached by Riccardo Piatti and former pros Ivan Ljubicic and Carlos Moya, and during Wimbledon, he hired John McEnroe as an adviser on a temporary basis.

Then, at the start of this year, he parted ways with Moya (who has since joined Nadal's team) and brought on Krajicek. The reason: to help him solve the riddle of the only two players ahead of him in the rankings — Murray and Djokovic. He has a combined 3-17 record against the two.

"I don't think I'm ever going to be the best guy from the baseline by any means, especially not against them," he said before the Australian Open. "If I'm going to take it to them, it's by coming forward. So I wanted to improve in that aspect."

Raonic has been effective at net thus far in Melbourne; he tried serve-and-volleying against Gilles Simon in the third round, winning 20 of 32 approaches. Now, he'll see if he can keep moving forward against Nadal and take another step toward the trophy. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **"I have some very difficult tasks ahead of me.**
> Raonic on his chances of winning the Aussie Open. He faces Rafa Nadal next.

CFL

Burris, 41, set to call it a career

Veteran CFL quarterback Henry Burris will announce his retirement on Tuesday, ending his career on top after leading the Ottawa Redblacks to a Grey Cup title last season.

The Redblacks have called a news conference for Tuesday and a source confirmed that Burris would be announcing he's decided to call it quits.

The 41-year-old guided the Redblacks to a dramatic 39-33 overtime win over the favoured Calgary Stampeders in the CFL championship game — despite suffering a knee injury in the warm-up — throwing for 461 yards and three TDs while rushing for two more en route to being named the game's MVP.

Burris will finish his CFL career with three Grey Cups (1998 and 2008 with Calgary were the others) and two outstanding player awards (2010, 2015). He's third in all-time passing yards (63,227) and TDs (374).

3
Number of Grey Cups Henry Burris has won in his career.

He also spent time in the NFL with Chicago and Green Bay (2001-2002) and is the seventh-leading passer in professional football history with 64,023 yards. Despite Burris's Grey Cup heroics, the Redblacks had planned to enter 2017 with Trevor Harris as their starter, a move that reportedly contributed to Burris's decision to retire.

Burris's departure will leave Toronto's Ricky Ray as the CFL's leading active all-time passer with 54,883 yards. But Ray, 37, is also pondering his future this off-season. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Henry Burris GETTY IMAGES

NHL

Smith extends his stay with Senators

The Ottawa Senators have signed forward Zack Smith to a four-year contract extension worth US$13 million.

The Senators said in a release that the extension through the 2020-21 season carries an annual average value of $3.25 million per year.

Smith, 28, has 11 goals and 11 assists in 43 games this season and is averaging a career-high 16 minutes 13 seconds per game.

Zack Smith GETTY IMAGES

The native of Maple Creek, Sask., set career highs with 25 goals and 36 points in 2015-16. He has 75 goals and 61 assists In 443 NHL games, all with the Senators.

Smith was Ottawa's third-round pick (79th overall) in the 2008 NHL Draft. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Royals' pitcher Ventura honoured in his homeland

Dozens of children wearing blue T-shirts with the name "Ventura" on the back gathered at a coastal home to pay respects to their idol: Yordano Ventura. The town has declared two days of mourning.

The Royals pitcher died Sunday in a car crash in his native Dominican Republic, where he was known for practicing with his former youth baseball team every time he visited home. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AFCON

Algeria bows out as Tunisia progress

Algeria was eliminated from the Africa Cup of Nations in a goal rush in the final games in Group B on Monday. The one-time title contender drew 2-2 with Senegal and saw Tunisia go through to the quarterfinals in its place by beating Zimbabwe 4-2.

Ten goals flew in at the culmination of the group in Gabon but Algeria's fate was effectively sealed quickly when North African rival Tunisia went 2-0 up very early over the Zimbabweans with strikes from Niam Sliti and Youssef Msakni. Algeria needed Tunisia to lose in Libreville to have a chance of progressing to the quarters. Senegal had already qualified for the quarterfinals coming into the games.

In Franceville, Algeria twice led Senegal but Senegal twice equalized, leaving Algeria to exit the tournament without a win.

Two of the four quarterfinal lineups have been decided: Tunisia will play Burkina Faso, and Senegal will play Cameroon. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hoping for better in Houston

NFL

Wild-card weekend was everything except wild

There's this football game planned for Feb. 5 in Houston. Let's hope it turns out much better than most of the post-season matchups the NFL has provided this year.

To say Sunday's championship games were duds is being kind. Blame the two losing teams, the Packers and Steelers, who were so helpless that they looked like they should have been done playing last month. All credit to the Patriots and Falcons, of course, who could give fans an all-time great shootout in two weeks.

But don't count on it considering how eight of the 10 playoff contests were, well, no contest.

Wild-card weekend was everything except wild. Routs galore.

Inept performances by the undermanned Raiders and Dolphins, inconsistent Giants, and they-don't-belong-there Lions.

Chris Hogan set a franchise playoff record with nine receptions for 180 yards in the Patriots' 36-17 rout over the Steelers in Sunday's AFC championship game. MADDIE MEYER/GETTY IMAGES

It didn't improve any with the mismatches on the first day of the divisional round: Houston had no business being on the same field as New England, and only the Patriots' sloppiness kept that game relatively close for a while. Atlanta passed Seattle dizzy and cruised.

The respite from such lopsided and at times barely watchable matches came the next day with a classic Packers-Cowboys game. It was worth waiting for from beginning to end — the kind of product that entrances everyone — and was followed by a tight Steelers-Chiefs game that seemed to bode well for the conference finals.

Then, deflation.

Sure, it was sweet for the folks in Georgia and New England, and they deserve to celebrate.

The Patriots (16-2) are seeking even more history, including Tom Brady going for a record fifth Super Bowl crown by a quarterback. The Falcons (13-5) are an exciting offensive machine with an improving defence and a coach likely to entertain in Dan Quinn.

> **"This is what you fight for. This is what you train for. This is what you get hurt for.**
> Julian Edelman

Oddsmakers expect a close one, too, making the Patriots merely a 3-point favourite.

"It's an honour to get to go and play in this game," Patriots receiver Julian Edelman said Sunday night.

"This is what you fight for. This is what you train for. This is what you get hurt for. This is what you get yelled at for, and prepare for, and go through the ebbs and flows of a season."

Unfortunately, the NFL this month has seen far too many ebbs. The conference championships punctuated that, which was surprising because the Steelers and, in particular, the Packers had performed so well in their previous two outings.

Maybe that was a big part of the letdown Sunday. Green Bay and Pittsburgh made so many mistakes almost from the outset that they never gave themselves a chance to reach Houston. Perhaps they simply ran out of steam, while their opponents had a wild-card bye that kept them fresher.

Seemingly much fresher.

"If this has taught us anything, it's how important home-field advantage is," Aaron Rodgers said. "Being able to sleep in your own bed and practise and not have to travel and have the fan support, it makes a big difference. We've played in three of these now and all on the road. It's tough to win on the road."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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MAKE IT TONIGHT

Zesty Artichoke and Spinach Roll-Up Lasagna

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

This updated classic packs a healthy dose of veggies.

Ready in 55 minutes
Serves 6

Ingredients
- 1 box (13.25 oz) lasagne sheets, fresh, pre-cooked or cooked
- 2 cups tomato sauce
- 2 cups fresh baby spinach
- 2 cups ricotta cheese
- 1 cup grated Parmesan
- 1/2 to 1 (6 oz) jar artichoke hearts, drained
- 1 egg
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 cup grated Fontina cheese, divided
- 1 cup grated mozzarella cheese

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 350. Ladle thin layer of sauce on bottom of a 9' x 13' inch baking dish.

2. In food processor, add spinach, ricotta, Parmesan, artichoke, egg and salt and process until creamy.

3. Create a rolling station by laying noodles out on a flat surface (lined with parchment) and mix Fontina and mozzarella in a bowl. Take a heaping Tbsp ricotta mixture and create a thin layer across the entire lasagna noodle. Sprinkle with Fontina and mozzarella mix.

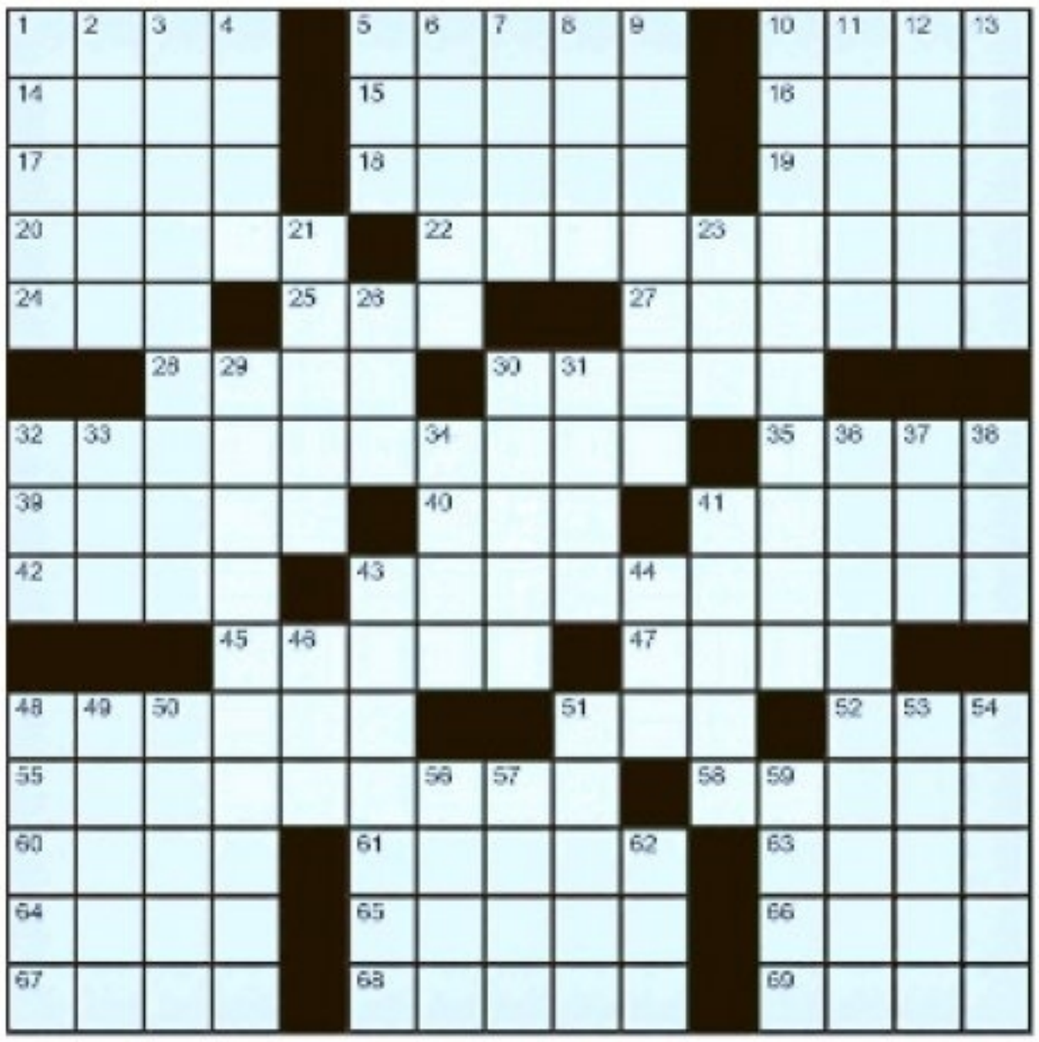
4. Gently roll up noodle from one end to the other. Place roll-up seam side down in the prepared baking dish and repeat until all the lasagna noodles are filled. Pour more tomato sauce over the tops of the lasagna roll-ups and sprinkle with remaining Fontina and mozzarella mix.

5. Loosely cover the baking dish with aluminum foil, and bake for 15 minutes. Remove foil, bake for another 15 minutes. Garnish with parsley if desired.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Rested, __ bit
5. Q. "Do you know _ '_' is a Taylor Swift album?" A. "Yes, and it was released in 2012."
10. Dog breed, _-Pei
14. Sound in the famous Alka-Seltzer commercial song
15. "__ go on?"
16. Mariah Carey hit
17. The _ (Famous mountains in Europe)
18. Varieties
19. Casino likelihoods
20. Ten Commandments receiver
22. Calgary's famous annual events
24. Scand. land
25. Mr. Sajak
27. Menswear designer
28. House, hip-style
30. Marshy water in Louisiana
32. Emergency 'beds' in hospitals
35. Quite
39. Feudal lord
40. Build up the barracks
41. Christina Aguilera's "_ in a Bottle"
42. Himalayas legend
43. Super swift dogs
45. Musical group of nine
47. City in Quebec
48. Big desert
51. High deg.
52. "You're it!" game
55. Transversely
58. Lightly fry
60. Ms. Downey of "Touched by an Angel"
61. Angered
63. _-Raspberry (Ocean Spray flavour)
64. Ed of "Daniel Boone"
65. Consumer advocate Ralph
66. Gent's gender
67. City's green area
68. Surnamesakes of Will who portrayed Grandpa on "The Waltons"
69. Letters to follow Kays

DOWN
1. Markets via unwanted email
2. Grant
3. Classified: 2 wds.
4. Basilica area
5. Fountain filler
6. Canadian songstress of "Mushaboom"
7. Broadway musical
8. Scandinavian tale
9. Lets down
10. Two words to complete Toronto attraction 'The Bata'
11. Ms. Hopper of Hollywood's heyday gossip
12. "I Would Die for You" singer Jann
13. Actress, Portia de __
21. Cattiness
23. Quid Quo link
26. ...D, E, F, G
29. Prairie place, partially puny-ly: 2 wds.
30. Brimless cap
31. Drill Sergeant's force
32. Mr. Stallone, to pals
33. Fasten
34. Competitor in fables
36. Artificial
37. "El __" (1961)
38. Fellows
41. Olympic champ's hauls
43. Eating away at
44. "You're such a comedian."
46. Surgeon's work in them, for short
48. Abandon, as junk
49. Fragrance
50. Bart Simpson's dad
51. _, Paul and Mary
53. In the least
54. Trait carriers
56. Latin hymn, with Dies
57. "Smooth Operator" singer
59. Wile E. Coyote supplier
62. Julia's actor brother/ Emma's father ...his initials-sharers

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
It's important to know that your interactions with others will benefit you now. Therefore, be friendly with others. Join classes, groups, clubs and organizations.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
With the Sun at the top of your chart, you'll look good to bosses, VIPs, parents and people in authority (including the police). This means this week is a good time for you to go after what you want.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Grab every chance to travel, because you need a change of scenery. Of course, by nature, you are curious. You love variety and stimulation.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Now is the time to focus on red-tape items like inheritances, wills, shared property, taxes and insurance issues. Wrap up what you can.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You need more sleep this week. This is also a good time to observe your style of relating to others. Perhaps you can learn something from this.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Because you have high standards for yourself, you will want to work efficiently so that you can be as productive as possible — go with this urge! Make hay while the sun shines.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
This whole week is a lovely and playful time for you. Enjoy sports events, social times with friends, playful activities with children and the arts. Romance might blossom, too!

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Your focus on home, family and your personal life continues at this time. In fact, your interactions with a parent could be significant. Relax and cocoon at home if you can.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Accept the fact that the pace of your day is accelerating with short trips, errands and increased reading and writing. You're busier than a termite in a yoyo.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You're never casual about money. And of course, you hate waste. That's why you're giving your cash flow and earnings a lot of thought now.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is a strong time for you, which is why you easily attract the attention of others. Not only do you attract people to you, you also can attract favorable situations.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Work alone or behind the scenes today, because this is a quiet time for you. Research of any kind will go extremely well

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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			2			8		1
7				4		2	5	
	9							5
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6		3			5			
	8		6	1		5		4

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YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

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6	8	2	1	3	4	5	9	7
3	7	9	5	6	8	4	1	2
1	4	5	2	7	9	6	8	3
4	5	7	6	9	3	1	2	8
9	1	6	4	8	2	3	7	5
2	3	8	7	1	5	9	6	4
8	9	4	3	2	1	7	5	6
7	2	3	9	5	6	8	4	1
5	6	1	8	4	7	2	3	9

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